

Robert Greenan

Hearing on Responding to Long-Term Unemployment

Dear, Senator or Representative

I am writing you to plead for your help, I am one of the Million's that have exhausted all of my unemployment benefits. In my +99th week of unemployment I have managed keep current on my household bills with my unemployment benefits, using all my savings and cashing out all my 401k's at a greatly reduced value. Today was lowest day of my life because after receiving my final benefit a month ago I applied for food stamps and general assistance (welfare). Welfare! I am a senior level Civil Draftsman; I have worked hard to become top in my field. Daily I spend 6 to 8 hours actively searching for work, and yes recessions happen so I am making a career change looking in other engineering disciplines. I want to use my 15 years of experience in drafting for an entry level position and get back to work as soon as I can. But at 57 years old I am unable to do the same jobs when I was younger. As for the welfare I accept the disgrace, I have no choice. But I must drop my car insurance and ride the bus, drop the internet limiting where I can look for work and a 2 hour walk to use the internet. Gentleman I am not a quitter I will find something but current market conditions must improve. Until then you would greatly improve my ability to find a job by adding a tier V and extend the weekly benefits for unemployment and help us out of this long-term unemployment.

Sincerely yours,

Robert (Bob) Greenan